

1 39. (Amended) The digital data storage media of claim
2 31, wherein the second voice dialing record further
3 includes:
4 a corporate dialer identifier.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1-39 are pending. Claims 1, 13, 16, 31 and 39 have been amended. A redlined copy of the amended claims is set forth in Appendix A for the Examiner's review.

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected the pending claims for the reasons set forth in the office action based one or a combination of the following references: U.S. Patent No. 5,991,364 to Furman et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,462,616 to Beswick et al., and U.S. Patent No 5,991,364 to McAllister et al.

II. Summary of the Invention

The present invention is directed to a speech recognition system that includes advanced subscriber records which include a significant amount of information, e.g., a corporate dialer identifier used to identify a corporate dialer which is to be used when a spoken name does not match any of the names in the subscriber's voice dialing record. The subscriber record may also include multiple names corresponding to a set of phone numbers, a set of multiple phone numbers

corresponding to a name and phone number identifiers, e.g., location identifiers, which are used in combination with a name to uniquely identify a phone number to be dialed.

By including a corporate dialer identifier in the subscriber record, and using the identified dialer when a spoken name is not matched to a name in the subscriber's voice dialing record, a hierarchical voice dialing system is provided where a subscriber's personal voice dialing record will supercede that of a corporate dialer but the corporate dialer will be consulted in cases where a name does not match the subscriber's personal voice dialing record. This feature is particularly beneficial for individuals who normally rely on a corporate voice dialer but would like to add additional names to the voice dialing system which are personal to the particular subscriber. The feature can also be used to provide improved voice dialing results for names which, e.g., due to the way they are spoken by the individual user, might go unrecognized by the corporate dialer. This is because speaker dependent speech recognition techniques can be used in the case of names included in the subscriber's personal voice dialing record while speaker independent speech recognition techniques are normally used for corporate dialers.

The advanced subscriber voice dialing records which include a corporate voice dialer identifier and the hierarchical voice dialing technique which uses the corporate voice dialer identifier stored in the

subscriber voice dialing record are not taught, disclosed, or suggested by the applied prior art references.

III. The Pending Claims are Patentable

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. (Amended) A voice dialing system for use with the Internet, the system comprising:
 - a data storage device for storing voice dialing subscriber records, at least one of said voice dialing subscriber records including a plurality of names, a telephone number being associated with each of said names, and a **corporate dialer identifier which identifies a corporate dialer to be used in the event that a name included in the subscriber's record is not detected in speech received in regard to a voice dialing call;**
 - a first computer system for coupling a voice dialing subscriber to the Internet;
 - a second computer system coupled to the Internet, the second computer system including means for updating a voice dialing subscriber record in response to voice dialing information received from the subscriber via the Internet;
 - a telephone switch; and
 - means for generating a telephone number corresponding to speech coupled to the telephone switch, the second computer system, and the data storage device.

Support for the amendment to claim 1 and the feature now recited therein can be found in original

dependent claims 13 and 39 and elsewhere in the application.

In rejecting dependent claim 13, the Examiner stated:

Regarding claim 13, see Beswick, col. 7, lines 46-52. Office Action Page 7

Col. 7 lines 46-57 of the Beswick patent states:

By way of example, the user might input "I need a doctor". This phrase or portions thereof can be entered into alias field 506, for example, during set-up, for a contact by the name of "Dr. Smith". As such, application 218 can be configured to analyze all, or a portion of, the voice command and interpret the command as requesting Dr. Smith.

Referring now to FIG. 7, an exemplary display 700 as generated by GUI 308 is depicted. contacts database 300, or a portion of the data therein, can be viewed and manipulated by the user through GUI 308, input device 212 and output device 214. (Col. 7, lines 46-57)

Notably, nothing in the cited portion of the Beswick patent describes:

a corporate dialer identifier which identifies a corporate dialer to be used in the event that a name included in the subscriber's record is not detected in speech received in regard to a voice dialing call.

In rejecting dependent claim 39, the Examiner referred Applicants to Fig. 7 which was referred to in col.7 lines 46-52, quoted above. The Examiner stated:

"Regarding claims 38 and 39, **see Beswick, Fig. 7.**" (Office Action page 14)

While Fig. 7 of the Beswick et al. patent shows a column titled "Company" **there is nothing to indicate that this is anything more than a listing which identifies the company a named person is associated with. The fact that the "company" identifier varies from listed person to listed person teaches away from the listing being a corporate dialer identifier to be used in the event a name is not recognized since, it would be necessary to recognize a name to determine which "company" the name is associated with.**

The other references applied by the Examiner do not show, teach or discuss the use of the claimed corporate dialer identifier. Accordingly, claim 1 and the claims which depend there from are patentable over the applied prior art references. Each of the other independent claims, i.e., claims 16 and 31 have been amended to recite features similar to the above quoted feature of claim 1. Accordingly, all the pending claims are patentable over the applied prior art references.

IV. Conclusion

Claims 1-39 are pending. None of the claims are anticipated or rendered obvious by the prior art of

record. Accordingly, the application is now in condition for allowance.

If there are any outstanding issues that need to be resolved to place the application in condition for allowance the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to discuss said issues.

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **March 25, 2003** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Appendix A

Redlined Version of Claims Showing Changes Made by the Current Amendment

1 1. (Amended) A voice dialing system for use with the
2 Internet, the system comprising:

3 a data storage device for storing voice dialing
4 subscriber records, at least one of said voice dialing
5 subscriber records including a plurality of names, a
6 telephone number being associated with each of said
7 names, and a corporate dialer identifier which identifies
8 a corporate dialer to be used in the event that a name
9 included in the subscriber's record is not detected in
10 speech received in regard to a voice dialing call;

11 a first computer system for coupling a voice
12 dialing subscriber to the Internet;

13 a second computer system coupled to the
14 Internet, the second computer system including means for
15 updating a voice dialing subscriber record in response to
16 voice dialing information received from the subscriber
17 via the Internet;

18 a telephone switch; and

19 means for generating a telephone number
20 corresponding to speech coupled to the telephone switch,
21 the second computer system, and the data storage device.

1 13. (Amended) The voice dialing system of claim 12,
2 wherein the subscriber record further includes:

3 at least two different location identifiers
4 associated with a name in said subscriber record[a
5 corporate dialer identifier which identifies a corporate

6 dialer to be used in the event that a name included in
7 the subscriber's record is not detected in speech
8 received in regard to a voice dialing call].

1 16. (Amended) A method of implementing a voice dialer,
2 comprising:

3 receiving first text corresponding to a first
4 name via the Internet;

5 generating a first speaker independent speech
6 recognition model from said first text;

7 storing the first speaker independent speech
8 recognition model in a storage device as part of a voice
9 dialing subscriber record, said voice dialing subscriber
10 record including a plurality of names, at least one
11 telephone number associated with each name, and a
12 corporate dialer identifier which identifies a corporate
13 dialer to be used in the event that a name in the
14 subscriber record is not detected as part of a voice
15 dialing operation in speech received from a user of said
16 subscriber record; and

17 associating, in the storage device, a first
18 telephone number with the first speaker independent
19 speech recognition model.

1 31. (Amended) A digital data storage media, comprising:

2 a first voice dialing record corresponding to a
3 first voice dialing service subscriber, the first voice
4 dialing record including:

5 a first subscriber identifier
6 associated with a voice dialing service
7 subscriber; and

8 a first calling entry, the first
9 calling entry including first text
10 corresponding to a first name, a first speaker
11 independent speech recognition model for
12 recognizing speech corresponding to said first
13 name; a first telephone number associated with
14 said first name and a first telephone number
15 identifier associated with said first telephone
16 number, and
17 a corporate dialer identifier which identifies a
18 corporate dialer to be used in the event that a name in
19 the first voice dialing record is not detected as part of
20 a voice dialing operation in speech received from a user
21 of said subscriber record.

22

1 39. (Amended) The digital data storage media of claim
2 31, wherein the [first] second voice dialing record
3 further includes:
4 a corporate dialer identifier.